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KHRUSHCHEV and the Flight to Sverdlovsk

Why is one U-2 spy plane a shock to the world, but not 35 years of intense world-wide Soviet espionage?

by Maj. Gen. Charles A. Willoughby

CONSIDERING the popular and entirely accurate picture of the Iron Curtain, the severe security measures adopted by the Kremlin, the threat of "shooting to kill" any plane — civil, military or tourist — that violates the sacred air space over Russia, or Azerbaijan or Tiflis, there should have been less excitement in the Press over one more such shooting, when an American reconnaissance plane was downed by anti-aircraft fire, probably an A-A missile.

The retrogression to savagery since World War I is made plain again by this incident. The world of Edward VII and Franz Joseph of Austria was a relatively genteel, civilized world. It took the outbreak of

war to tighten normal frontier and security measures.

The Bolshevik successors to the Czars have seen fit to carry lethal measures into every category of human relations: for them it is war, cold and hot, savage, relentless, merciless war, since the commies sneaked into power. Shooting down unarmed planes is a war measure. The reconnaissance flight that culminated in this shooting is also a war measure. That was all the explanation or philosophizing that officially was required of that situation.

Instead, the liberal Press, the crypto-communist appeasers, the one worlders, the draft-dodging do-gooders combined to raise excursions and alarms that